



HARFORD COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Harford County, in northeastern Maryland, lies between Pennsylvania and the Chesapeake Bay. It borders Baltimore County on the west and Cecil county on the east. Land area is approximately 281,839 acres. The northern four-fifths of the county lies in the Piedmont Plateau and has an elevation of 200 to 750 feet above sea level. The southern one-fifth is part of the Coastal Plain and is 40 to 200 feet above sea level. Thirty-three percent or just over 94,000 acres of the county is devoted to agriculture.

A population increase of 25 percent in the past ten years to 182,132 has created many obvious pressures for agriculture. Although people reside throughout the county, population is concentrated in and around the three incorporated towns in the southeastern coastal plain.

Harford's agricultural industry revolves around livestock and has fluid milk as its major income producer. Cash grain acreage, both corn and soybeans, has increased over the past 10 years. Readily available market demand in the county and nearby Baltimore City has brought about an increase in fruit and vegetable production during the same period.

HARFORD AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1997	Bu.	24,400	84.2	2,055,000
	1998		24,200	130.4	3,155,100
	1999		19,400	73.0	1,416,500
Corn for Silage	1997	Tons.	5,200	12.6	65,500
	1998		2,500	14.0	35,000
	1999		7,500	13.0	97,500
Soybeans	1997	Bu.	10,000	29.2	292,300
	1998		9,100	40.0	364,000
	1999		7,400	27.2	201,400
Wheat	1997	Bu.	4,200	68.8	289,000
	1998		4,100	56.1	230,000
	1999		4,100	58.8	241,000
Hay	1997	Tons.	12,000	2.8	33,300
	1998		12,400	4.1	50,400
	1999		13,700	3.5	47,200
Barley	1997	Bu.	*	*	*
	1998		1,000	69.0	69,000
	1999		1,000	78.8	78,800

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 1999				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 <sup>1</sup>	
Corn	11	Oats	3	Cattle	5
Wheat	15	Barley	3	Hogs	9
Hay	4	Soybeans	15	Sheep	3
				Milk Production	5 <sup>5</sup>

# HARFORD AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<b>Farm Numbers &amp; Size <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1987</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1997</b>
Number of Farms	758	695	651
Average Size (acres)	132	140	145
Land in Farms (acres)	99,948	97,312	94,112

Livestock (Number on Farms) <sup>1</sup>		1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory	Jan. 1	19,515	18,992	17,433
Hog Inventory	Dec. 1	1,294	1,238	3,190
Sheep Inventory	Jan. 1	3,510	3,019	2,824

Average Number of Milk Cows	1997	1998	1999
	4,800	5,000	5,000

Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.	1997	1998	1999
	76,500	81,000	84,000

Value of Sales <sup>1</sup>	1987	1992	1997
	----- Thousand Dollars -----		
All Products	24,500	28,735	38,807
Crops	8,669	12,302	16,299
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products	15,831	16,433	22,508

<sup>1</sup> Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.  
<sup>2</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.  
<sup>3</sup> Unranked - Data not published.  
<sup>4</sup> Revised.  
<sup>5</sup> 1999.  
\* Acreage too small to publish.

## MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 1999

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	**	30.8	5.05	3.04
February	** 40.7	35.1	2.60	2.70
March	** 43.8	44.3	5.09	3.29
April	** 55.7	50.2	2.36	3.56
May	**	63.6	** 1.49	4.07
June	** 73.8	72.0	** 2.78	4.42
July	**	76.3	** 1.17	3.96
August	** 76.4	75.0	3.76	4.43
September	**	68.6	14.36	3.89
October	**	57.5	** 3.75	3.13
November	** 50.4	47.5	** 2.96	3.32
December	**	35.4	3.06	3.61
Annual	**	54.7	**	43.42

\*\* Insufficient or partial data.

Number frost free days for 1999 \*\*

Normal frost free days 1951-1980 182 (1961-1990 Not available)

Highest temperature 07-07-99	100
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Lowest temperature \*\*

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**Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service  
and the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service.**